ODW Harmful Algae Blooms Plan

Raven Jarvis

Office of Drinking Water
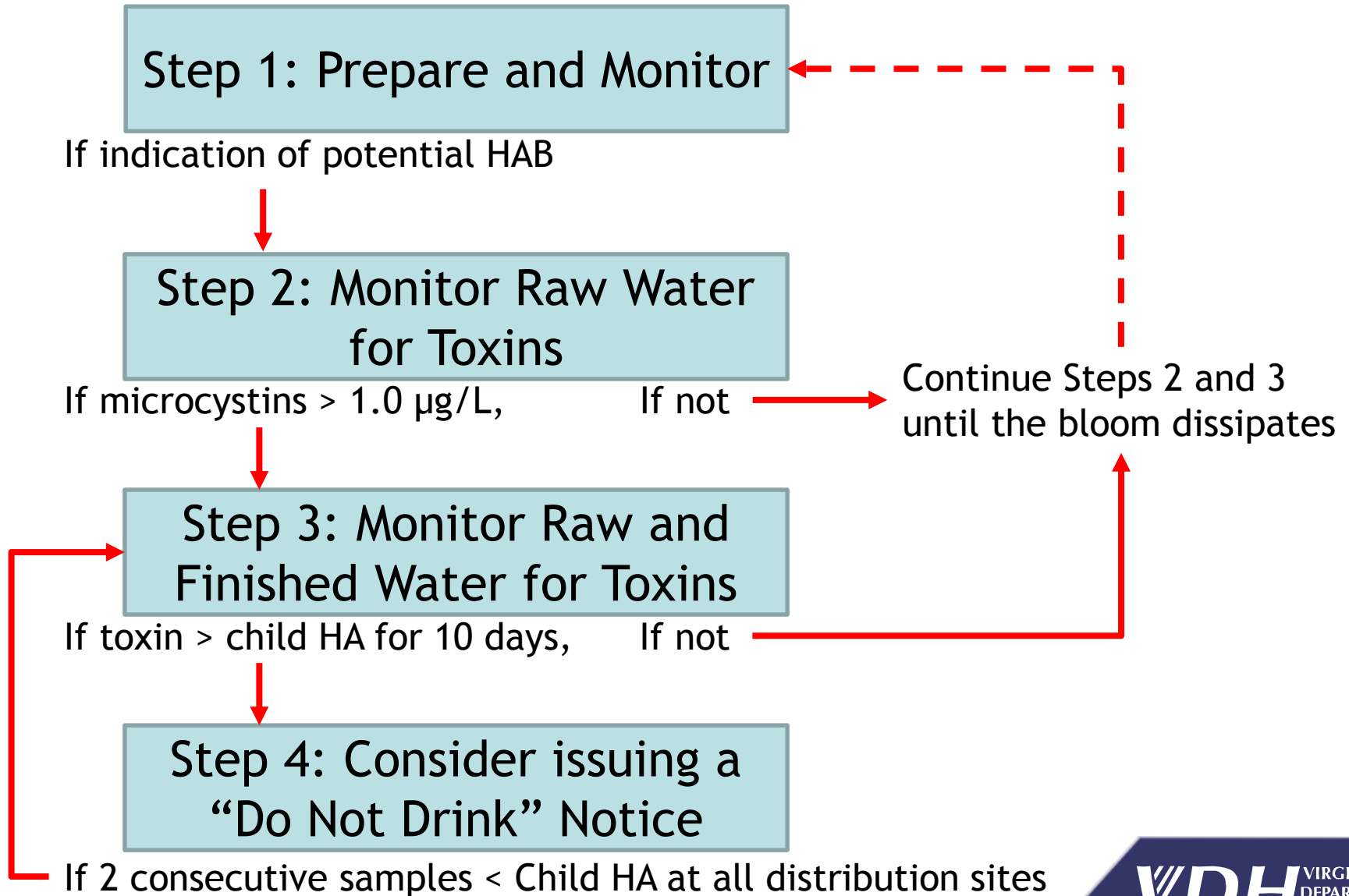
Photo Credit:
VIMS; Wolfgang Vogelbein

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Virginia HAB Task Force

- Virginia Interagency group
- Monitors public water bodies
  - Routine sampling
  - HAB Hotline - 888-238-6154
  - Online Reporting Form
- Coordinates interagency bloom responses

Algal Bloom Response

Step 1: Prepare and Monitor

If indication of potential HAB

Step 2: Monitor Raw Water for Toxins

If microcystins > 1.0 µg/L,   If not → Continue Steps 2 and 3 until the bloom dissipates

Step 3: Monitor Raw and Finished Water for Toxins

If toxin > child HA for 10 days,   If not

Step 4: Consider issuing a "Do Not Drink" Notice

If 2 consecutive samples < Child HA at all distribution sites

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Algal Bloom Response

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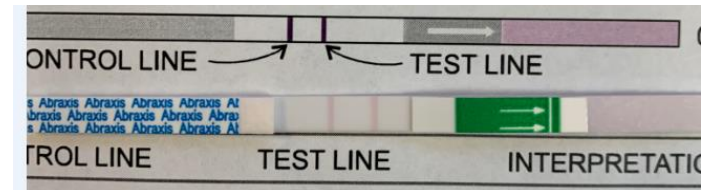
If microcystins > 1.0 µg/L

Step 3: Monitor Raw and Finished Water for Toxins

If toxin > child HA for 10 days

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If 2 consecutive samples < Child HA at all distribution sites

- Waterworks monitors for and report blooms
  - Visual
  - Analytical (pH)
- ODW shares HAB Task Force bloom reports

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Algal Bloom Response

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If microcystins > 1.0 µg/L

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If toxin > child HA for 10 days

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Step 4: Consider issuing a "Do Not Drink" Notice

If 2 consecutive samples < Child HA at all distribution sites

- ODW may provide field test kits or assist with testing
- Field offices can leave the test strips with Waterworks

CONTROL LINE → TEST LINE

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braxis Abraxis Abraxis Abraxis Abran
s Abraxis Abraxis Abraxis Abraxis A

TROL LINE   TEST LINE   INTERPRETATIO

m·bio

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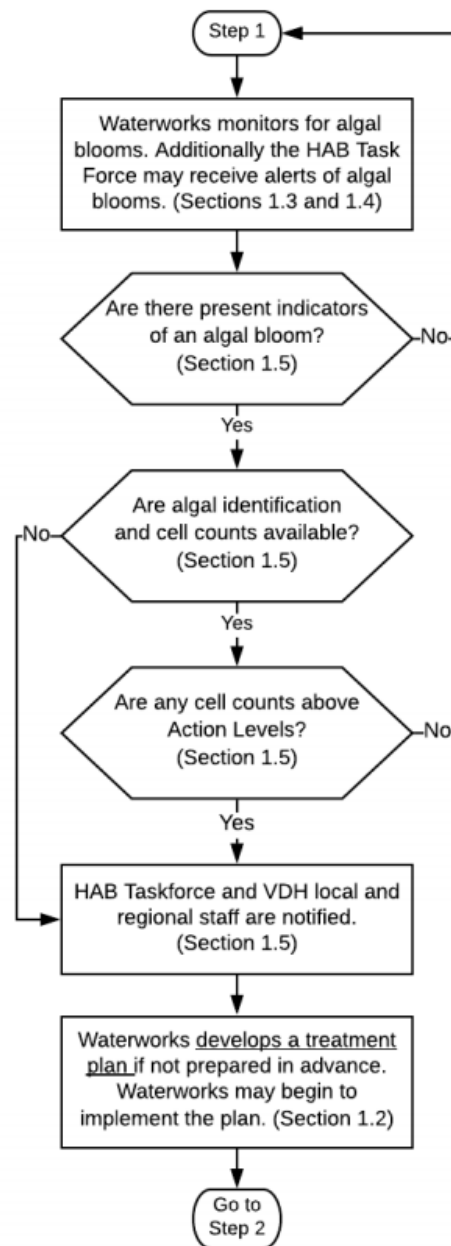
If toxin > child HA for 10 days

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Step 4: Consider issuing a "Do Not Drink" Notice

If 2 consecutive samples < Child HA at all distribution sites

- ODW may assist with sampling and analysis
- FO has bottles and dechlor
- FO coordinates with CO for analysis
- Sampling instructions: Y:\05-Incidents\511-HAB Events\Cyanotoxin Lab Information

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Algal Bloom Response

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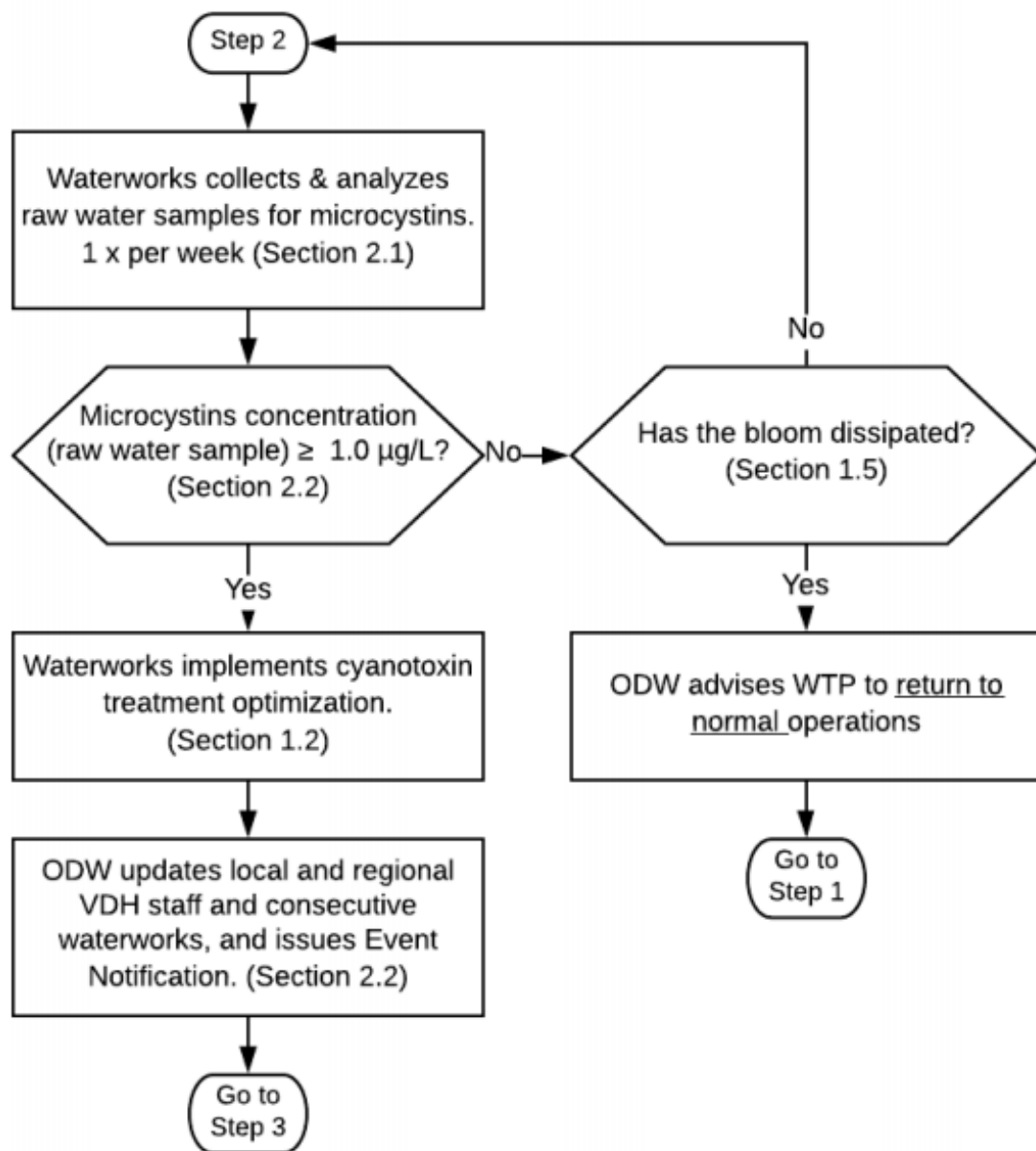
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Step 4: Consider issuing a "Do Not Drink" Notice

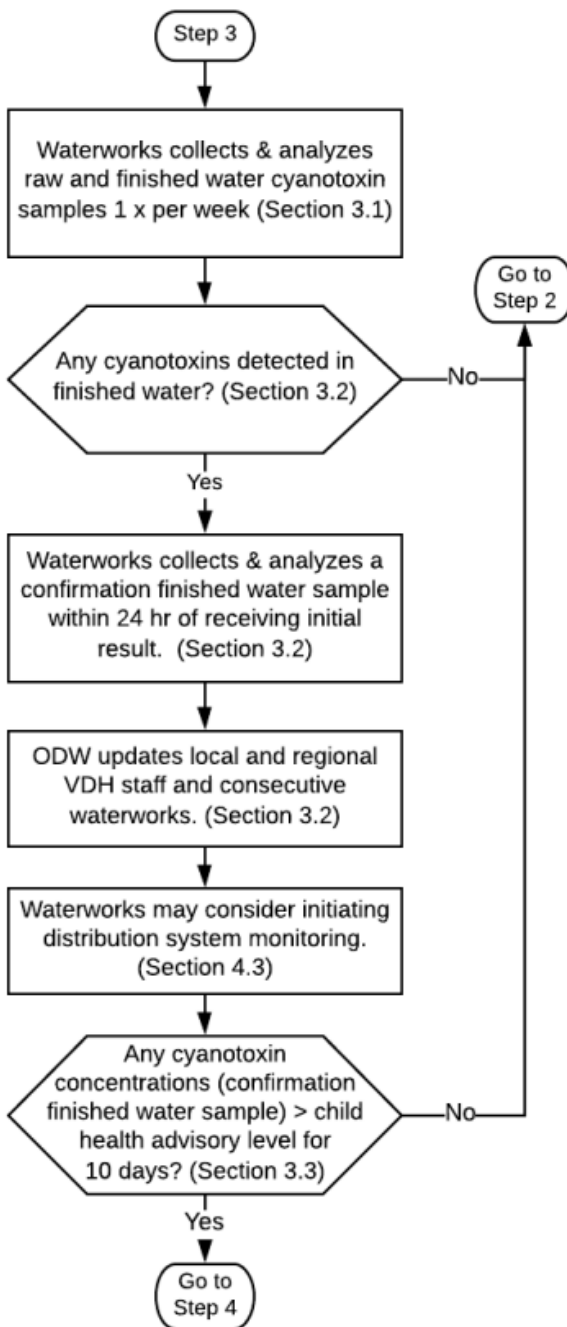If 2 consecutive samples < Child HA at all distribution sites

- FO will coordinate with the local health department director and the waterworks owner to recommend simple messaging - "Do Not Drink" if child HA exceeded > 10 days
- ODW recommends waterworks develop a distribution system monitoring plan

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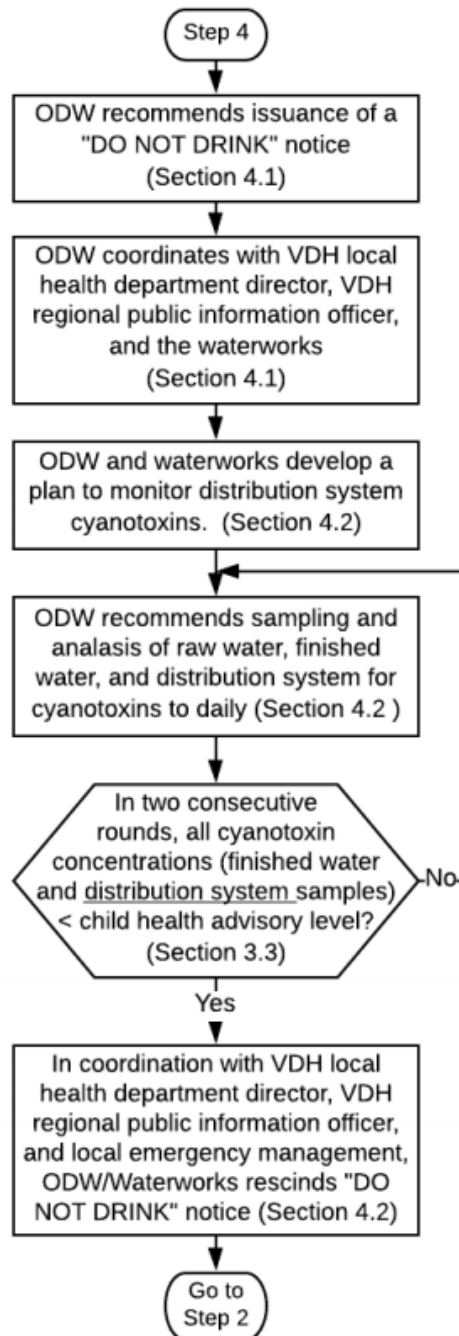*Protecting You and Your Environment*

ODW HAB Plan

Y:\13-Manuals\03-Sampling Manual

Source Water Protection Measures

- Public education

- Agricultural and stormwater Best Management Practices

- Wastewater improvements

Questions?

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